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REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN,

AND

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF TROY,

For the Year Ending March 1st, 1874.

FITCHBURG:
SENTINEL OFFICE POWER PRESS,
1874

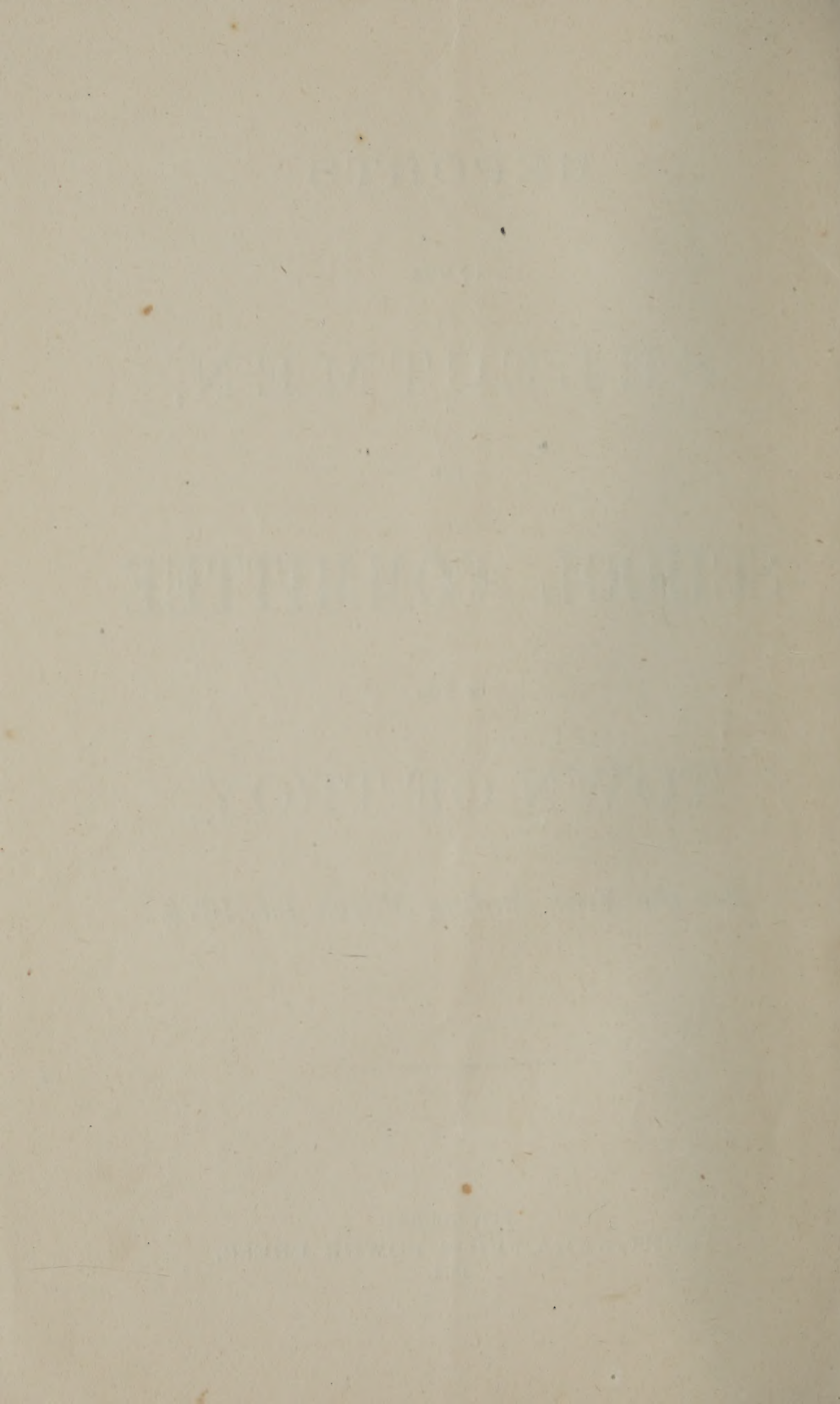
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SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

We, the subscribers, Selectmen of the Town of Troy, submit the following Report :

Amount of Money assigned to the several Highway Surveyors for Repairs of Highways in 1873.

District No. 1,	Thomas Wright,	\$63 58
"	2, Edwin Buttrick,	68 31
"	3, Abel W. Baker,	61 17
"	4, David W. Farrer,	44 15
"	5, Leonard Farrer,	47 95
"	6, Edmund Bemis,	59 06
"	7, Ira G. Starkey,	74 56
"	8, Alfred Lawrence,	42 15
"	9, Ezekiel Haskell,	40 50
"	10, Daniel J. Fife,	53 14
"	11, Wm. N. Watson,	34 06
"	12, Edwin F. Holt,	35 67
"	13, Levi Merrifield,	41 52
"	14, Thomas Tolman,	32 32
"	15, Daniel J. Fife,	37 29
"	16, Lovell P. Butler,	40 81
"	17, Martin L. Newton,	30 11
"	18, Lyman T. Clark,	47 22
"	19, Franklin Whitcome,	28 46
		<hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: 0;"/> \$882 03

Amount of Money appropriated for Schools in 1873.

Assessed for the year,	\$800 00
Literary Fund from the State,	87 33
Interest on school fund note,	24 00
Savings bank tax,	25 00
Railroad tax,	13 67
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	\$950 00

Division of School Money in 1874.

District No. 1, George H. Aldrich Committee,	\$350 25
“ 2, Charles W. Whitney, “	242 82
“ 3, Ira G. Starkey, “	108 14
“ 4, Wm. N. Watson, “	107 36
“ 5, Daniel J. Fife, “	73 52
“ 6, Alva S. Clark, “	65 22
George Damon, school tax in Fitzwilliam,	2 69
	<hr/>
	\$950 00

Amount of Money expended for Schooling in 1873.

District No. 1, by George H. Aldrich, Committee,	\$350 25
“ 2, by Charles W. Whitney, “	290 61
“ 3, by Ira G. Starkey, “	108 14
“ 4, by Wm. N. Watson, “	111 22
“ 5, by Daniel J. Fife, “	77 00
“ 6, by Alva S. Clark, “	75 21
George Damon, tax,	2 69
	<hr/>
	\$1,015 12

State and County Taxes.

Paid State Tax for the year 1873,	\$1,416 00
County Tax for the year 1873,	634 81
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	\$2,050 81

Fire Department.

Paid A. M. Forristall, for services of Enginemen,	\$148 50
Wm. J. Boyden, for hose and repairs on engine,	41 05
C. E. & G. F. Kimball, oil for engine,	1 30
	<hr/>
	\$190 85

Repairs of Highways and Bridges.

Paid Alva S. Clark,	\$ 4 00
Edmund Bemis, for building new road,	490 00
do damage awarded by Selectmen,	50 00
George S. Colburn, “ “	30 00
Daniel J. Fife,	36 50
Ira G. Starkey,	29 15
John Clement,	10 00
Wm. N. Watson,	3 60
	<hr/>
	\$653 25

Abatement of Taxes.

Moses Abair, over assessment,	\$7 00
George Brown, “	1 00
Charles Haskell, “	1 00
James W. Woodard, over assessment,	1 00
George White, “	1 00
Joseph Robbins, tax assessed in 1872,	1 67
Albert Due, “ 1873,	1 36
Leafy Brown, over assessment 1873,	3 36
Barrett Ripley, discount on State bond,	26 39
	<hr/>
	\$43 78

Town Officers pay for 1872.

Edwin Buttrick, services as Selectman,	\$55 50
Wm. N. Watson, “ “	52 00
Edmund Bemis, “ “	47 00
Barrett Ripley, services as Treasurer,	15 00
Charles D. Farrer, services as Clerk,	25 00
Levi Bingham, services as Supt. School Committee,	25 00
M. E. Wright, “ “ “	22 00
Edwin Buttrick, services as Moderator,	10 00
Leonard Farrer, services as Auditor,	2 00
	<hr/>
	\$253 50

Support of Poor for 1873 and until March 1, 1874.

Paid Ransom Ingals, boarding Porter White,	\$236 00
Ransom Ingals, for making clothes for Porter White,	2 30
Lucy J. Oaks, boarding Appleton Oaks,	265 00
Amos Avery, for keeping transient paupers,	9 25
Levi Merrifield, moving and boarding Caroline Alexander,	157 82
Mary A. Kendall, boarding Joseph Kendall,	62 86
Edwin F. Kendall, “ “	50 00
Mary M. Whittemore, “ Hannah Putney,	120 00
John Clement, for keeping transient paupers,	6 00
Alva S. Clark, “ “	10 75
Edmund Bemis, “ “	6 00
Wm. N. Watson, for money paid “	6 25
	<hr/>
	\$932 23

Breaking Roads in Winters of 1871, '72, '73 and '74.

Brigham B. Forrestall,	\$ 2 00
Edwin F. Holt,	10 40
Edwin Buttrick,	4 10
Wm. N. Watson,	30 15
Joseph Aldrich,	2 60
Jonas Bemis,	12 00
Lovell P. Butler,	22 60
Levi Merrifield,	14 90
Lyman T. Clark,	44 55
Jonathan B. Clark,	3 50
Franklin Whitcome,	17 73
Leonard Farrer,	30 50
Levi Streeter,	4 60
Martin L. Newton,	3 00
Matthew Wilson,	7 90
Sidney A. Butler,	6 65
Mary Coulter,	17 40
Charles D. Farrer,	11 80
Ira G. Starkey,	8 70
E. P. Kimball & Co.	4 00
Edmund Bemis,	14 80
Webster Corey,	3 00
Hamilton Parker, in 1871, '72, '73 and '74,	35 20
Thomas Tolman,	2 10
Amasa Fuller, Jr.,	6 00
Daniel J. Fife,	4 00
	<hr/>
	\$324 18

Notes and Interest Paid.

Paid Henry M. Whittemore, endorsement on note,	\$100 00
Nancy B. Wheeler, interest on note,	7 46
Polly Amadon, endorsement on note,	25 00
Ruth Haskell, interest on note,	13 70
Endorsement on Geo. Stowell's note,	115 00
Emma M. Whittemore, interest on note,	59 89
Nathan C. Carter, interest on note,	40 57
Maria Wheeler, endorsement on note,	73 17
Thomas Wright, interest on three notes,	72 00
Mary M. Whittemore, endorsement on note,	75 00
Albert Pratt's note and interest,	474 75
Savings Bank, Keene, interest on note,	10 75
Five Cent Savings Bank, Keene, interest on note,	37 85
Edmund Bemis, interest on note,	21 00
Five Cent Savings Bank, Keene, interest on note,	73 50

Savings Bank, Keene, interest on note,	15 00
Henry M. Whittemore, note and interest,	477 21
Emma M. Whittemore, " "	500 00
Mary M. Whittemore, " "	507 04
Edmund Bemis, interest on road bill,	6 45
Edmund Bemis, two notes and interest,	521 82
Sybel Foster's heirs, note and interest,	405 29
School Fund, interest on note,	24 00
Polly Amadon, endorsement on note,	25 00
Nathan Carter, note and interest,	703 14
Wm. A. Harris, " "	19 71
Alton Blodget, endorsement on note,	246 60
Warren Farrer, note and interest,	117 06
Jesse Hiscock, " "	590 14
Abel Baker's " "	188 68

\$5,546 78

Sundries Paid.

Paid Jonas Bemis, collecting taxes in 1872,	\$50 00
A. C. Upham, repairing Town House bell,	10 00
Barrett Ripley, work done on Common,	51 00
Wm. J. Boyden, for Reservoirs,	336 75
Wm. A. Harris, services as Sexton,	41 25
Wm. A. Harris, repairing hearse house, &c.,	2 50
Wm. N. Watson, for printing tax bills and stationery,	3 25
Ira G. Starkey, for brick,	24 00
Edmund Bemis, for stationery, car fare, &c.,	6 73
Charles W. Whitney, for work on Common,	58 30
Barrett Ripley, " "	141 70
Geo. W. Brown, water in highway,	1 50
Augustus Hodgkins, for Record book,	5 00
Wm. A. Harris, water in highway,	1 50
Wm. N. Watson, for tax books and stationery,	13 92
Jonas Bemis, in part for collecting taxes 1873,	30 19
Alva S. Clark, car fare and stationery,	2 43
Edmund Bemis, retainer bill Wheeler & Faulkner,	6 00
Wm. N. Watson, for guide boards and putting up same,	5 00
Wm. N. Watson, entertaining Selectmen taking invoice,	1 62
Abel W. Baker, supporting watering trough,	1 50
John Clement, boarding Selectmen making tax,	10 00
Edmund Bemis, car fare and stationery,	1 15

\$805 29

Recapitulation.

Schooling,	\$1,015 12
State and County Tax,	2,050 81
Fire Department,	190 85
Highways and Bridges,	653 25
Abatement of Taxes,	43 78
Town Officers' Bills,	253 50
Support of Poor,	932 23
Breaking Roads,	324 18
Notes and Interest Paid,	5,546 78
Sundries,	805 29
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	\$11,815 79

TREASURER'S REPORT.

1873.	BARRETT RIPLEY, <i>Town Treasurer.</i>	DR.
March 12,	Cash in Treasury,	\$39 09
	Taxes in the hands of Jonas Bemis, Collector for 1872,	102 96
	State Bonds,	4,400 00
	School fund note signed by Selectmen,	400 00
March 25,	Borrowed of Five Cent Savings Bank, Keene,	800 00
April 4,	Received of the County for support of paupers, Taxes assessed in the year 1873,	133 00 4,660 93
May 22,	Borrowed of Five Cent Savings Bank, Keene,	500 00
July 1,	Coupons on State Bonds,	132 00
	Cash received of the County for sup. of paupers, " of Jonas Bemis, interest on ta for 1872,	150 25 2 62
	Savings Bank Tax from the State,	728 28
	Railroad Dividend from the State,	157 55
	Literary Fund from the State,	87 33
Jan. 1, '74,	Coupons due on State Bonds,	132 00
	Interest on School fund note,	24 00
Feb. 28,	Received of Hamilton Parker, for use of derrick,	20 00
	" Edmund Bemis, for highway tax collector,	19 49
	" " for 100 feet old rope,	3 00
	" E. P. Kimball, for use of hay scales,	17 39
	" Jonas Bemis, int. on taxes for the year '73,	14 30
	" Abel W. Baker, highway tax for 1873,	2 39
		<hr/>
		\$12,526 58

1874.

Contra.

Feb. 28, Outstanding taxes in the hands of Jonas Bemis, Collector 1873,	\$149 21
School fund note,	400 00
Cash in the hands of the Treasurer,	161 58
By payment of 137 orders of the Selectmen,	11,815 79
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	\$12,526 58

Assets of the Town, March 1st, 1874.

Cash in the Treasury,	\$161 58
Outstanding taxes in hands of Jonas Bemis, Collector in 1873,	149 21
Due from United States,	1,482 00
Furniture used by Mrs. Putney,	21 17
Value of hay scales,	315 00
Town Meadow,	10 00
Due from Barrett Ripley, highway tax assessed in 1867,	53 17
Value of Town derrick,	250 00
Due from Stanley and Gates, use of derrick,	100 00
Five thousand feet bridge plank,	80 00
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	\$2,622 13

Liabilities of the Town, March 1st, 1874.

Ruth Haskell,	note and interest,	\$368 20
Sarah Haskell,	" "	393 21
Thomas Wright,	" "	210 00
Maria Wheeler,	" "	985 41
Thomas Wright,	" "	104 45
Cheshire Prov. Inst.,	" "	505 00
Edmund Bemis, (guardian),	" "	408 66
Alton Blodgett,	" "	2,000 00
Lucy Harris,	" "	281 57
Nancy B. Wheeler,	" "	130 62
Polly Amadon,	" "	97 10
School Fund,	" "	400 00
Keene Five Cent Sav. Bank,	" "	808 00
" "	" "	505 00
Thomas Wright,	" "	721 00
Due school district No. 5, not expended in 1868-'69-'70,		43 74
" " 4, " 1871,		4 50
Due Jonas Bemis for collecting taxes for 1873,		19 81
" Town Officers' bills,		250 00
" One order held by Mrs. S. B. Farrar, not paid,		1 50
		<hr/>
		\$8,237 77

Total Liabilities, <i>brought forward</i> ,	\$8,237 77
Assets subtracted,	2,622 13
Indebtedness March 1, 1874,	<hr/> \$5,615 64

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM N. WATSON,
EDMUND BEMIS,
ALVA S. CLARK,

Selectmen of Troy.

We, the undersigned, have this second day of March, 1874, carefully examined and compared the Report of the Selectmen and Town Treasurer, and find them correctly cast with proper vouchers.

LEONARD FARRAR,
EDWIN BUTTRICK,

Auditors.

REPORT OF THE ENGINEERS.

The Engineers of the Fire Department of the Town of Troy, respectfully submit the following Report :

The engine, hose and hose carriage are in good and efficient condition. The expenses of our Fire Department has necessarily been more the present year than years past, as we have purchased ten feet of new suction hose, oiled the leading hose and put in three cisterns, situated at convenient points for the supply of water. Your Engineers would urge upon the Town the necessity of one more cistern in the north part of the village ; also to supply the cistern near the Town House with running water.

With these auxiliaries and liberal influences from the citizens, we feel and trust that your Fire Department will be ever ready and sufficient for any and every emergency.

W. J. BOYDEN, *Chief Engineer.*

C. W. WHITNEY, *Clerk.*

G. W. BROWN,

A. J. ALDRICH,

A. W. BAKER,

Assistant Engineers.

SCHOOL REPORT.

Fellow Citizens :

In presenting the report of the schools for the year now ending, your Committee would suggest, among other things, some defects which they think should be remedied. That we expend money enough to have our schools better than they are, will be conceded by every one who has fully considered the matter ; and that some of our schools are doing well, whilst others are on the retrograde, must also be admitted. But is there any necessity for such a state of things ? We think not, if all who have anything to do with the schools, would heartily unite in changing their status.

And first, the standard of morality must be elevated, for no school can truly flourish where the morals are low. Every educator knows this to be a fact. Where the best state of morals exists in a school, there, other things being equal, you will find the best scholars. To accomplish this desirable end there must be great care taken to employ only teachers of sterling morality, who will not only teach good morals but enforce their teachings by a correct life ; for it is the life that makes the most lasting impression. And as all admit that the best code of morals is contained in the Bible, therefore, it should always be one of the text books, and its principles of morality constantly inculcated in the school-room, and all right teaching in the school should be strengthened by home influences. Parents should watch carefully over the morals of their children, and check where they see the tendencies are downward, before they become so strong that they cannot be controlled. Our schools should be such that all parents would feel safe in sending their children to them. Your Committee are firmly impressed that it is a fact, that profanity and low vulgarity are on the increase in some of our schools. Such

things ought not to be, if we wish our schools to rise to eminence. Committees, parents, and teachers, must all combine to change this aspect of things, and it will be done, but not without.

FREE SCHOOL BOOKS.

In some cities and towns in different states this system has been adopted, and always found to give very general satisfaction, because, besides other things, it saves a large amount of expense to parents and guardians, which they must feel is very desirable.

The system is this ; the town authorizes the Superintending School Committee to purchase all the school books needed at the lowest publishing prices, and then loan them to the pupils. The books can thus be obtained at forty per cent less than retail prices, that is, a book which retails at \$1.00, can thus be purchased for 60 cents, and some books which retail at \$1.00 can be obtained for 45 cents—less, you perceive than one-half. We think this matter should be considered, and, if the system is found advisable, adopted.

SCHOOL HOUSES.

All our school-houses are now in good condition, with the exception of No. 5, which needs a thorough repair.

SCHOOL No. 1.

Prudential Committee, MR. G. H. ALDRICH.

The Summer and Winter terms, embracing nineteen weeks, were under the tuition of Mrs. L. B. Wright, whose abilities as a teacher are too well known to need commendation. The school under her wise management and accurate teaching made good improvement both terms. This school has been taught by Mrs. Wright eight terms, and the good effects are very visible in every respect except one—parents have become so satisfied with the regime, that they do not visit the school as much as formerly, a thing which is to be hoped they will remedy.

The Fall term of ten weeks was taught by Miss Cora F. Lombard, who in consequence of sickness, was obliged to leave near its close,

and her sister, Miss Kate F. Lombard, finished it out. The term opened well, but the Committee not being notified of its close, and therefore not present, is not able to report as to the progress that was made.

SCHOOL No. 2.

Prudential Committee, MR. CHARLES W. WHITNEY.

The Summer term of ten weeks was taught by Miss Emily R. Bailey of Swanzev. Miss Bailey having taught several terms previously with satisfaction to the district, was happily received by all, both pupils and parents. She commenced her labors with that fidelity and perseverance that characterized her former efforts, was thorough and methodical in her instructions, and met with commendable success. Yet we feel that there would have been more profit from the same expenditure, if all the parents in the district had felt the importance of having their children attend the school constantly and in season. This calls for the attention of some of the parents, if they would have their children receive the full benefit of the school.

The Winter term of eleven weeks was taught by Mr. Edgar V. Wilson of Keene. Mr. Wilson entered upon his work with very favorable prospects. The Committee had the fullest confidence in his qualification and ability for the work before him. He was thorough in discipline and instruction, and the school at the close, showed advancement beyond some previous years, yet it does not occupy the position that it once did. There are attractions surrounding a village school, which if yielded to, will mar its progress. Therefore, to have a school meet with the greatest success, it must receive the united efforts of parents, teacher and pupils.

SCHOOL No. 3.

Prudential Committee, MR. IRA G. STARKEY.

The Summer term of seven weeks was kept by Miss Alice B. Barnard, who had never taught before, but who possesses the elements of a good teacher. The order was good, and the application of the scholars to their studies better than in some previous terms. The tardy marks were altogether too numerous, but the average attendance good, yet not equal to some of our schools, but taking all things into consideration, the improvement was fair.

The Winter term of eight weeks was taught by Miss Betsey R. Stanley, an experienced teacher, and who had taught two terms in this district before. The term opened well and bid fair to be a very successful one. There were twelve less tardy marks than in the Summer, and the order very good, but the improvement not all that your Committee hoped for, as shown by the closing examination, although sometimes it is a fact that an examination does not show the true condition of a school, and it may have been so with the last one, in this.

SCHOOL No. 4.

Prudential Committee, MR. WILLIAM N. WATSON.

The Summer term of seven weeks was taught by Miss Irene L. Harrington of Marlboro, who gave very good satisfaction. The studies, as far as they were pursued, were well recited. At the closing examination it was evident that labor had not been a stranger among them. The attendance was good—not a mark of tardiness or dismissal for the term, and but few absences, showing an interest on the part of the parents and pupils which speaks well for this term.

The Winter term of nine weeks was taught by the same teacher, and we are sorry that her labors could not have been crowned with the same success as in the Summer term. The school was reinforced by a number of scholars who did not bring with them that good influence which gives success to a school. Instead of presenting a record without any tardy marks or dismissals, there were twenty-two instances of tardiness. It seems wrong that scholars who try to do well should be made to suffer from the neglect of a few. But to the credit of the district, most of these pupils did not legally belong to this school, who produced this unfavorable result.

SCHOOL No. 5.

Prudential Committee, MR. DANIEL FIFE.

There was a Summer and Winter term each seven weeks in length, both taught by Miss Clara E. Elwood, who if she would avail herself of the advantages of the High school could soon be numbered among our better class of teachers. The school under her instruction has gradually improved, but there might be double the progress,

if the scholars would all attend punctually, and apply themselves closely to their studies while in school, and the parents would encourage them to study at home evenings, and it is the opinion of your Committee that if both terms should be united in one, in the Fall, vastly more good could be accomplished, which has been done in No. 6, and which since has so improved as to become one of our best schools.

SCHOOL No. 6.

Prudential Committee, MR. ALVAH S. CLARK.

This school was kept in one continuous term of twelve and one-half weeks by Miss Janny Newton, who has had but little experience in teaching, yet possesses the elements of a first-class teacher, judging from her success in this school. She secured good order, without much attempt at governing. She was careful and thorough in her instructions, commencing with first principles and leading pupils on to the more difficult. And in the judgment of your Committee, no school in town has done better for the past few years than No. 6. The attendance was good. Had it not been for one or two families, there would hardly have been a tardiness or absence recorded. The parents have been encouraged to repair and improve the school-room, which we hope will stimulate their children to still greater exertions.

HIGH SCHOOL.

There have been two terms of ten weeks each, one in the Spring and the other in the Fall, taught by Mrs. L. B. Wright. The instruction has been thorough, and the success good. The school has more than paid for itself by the tuition received; and would be vastly improved, if it could be so graded that only the higher branches should be taught. All of the districts but one, were represented in the school which speaks well for the town.

STATISTICS OF SUMMER SCHOOLS FOR 1873.

NUMBER OF DISTRICT.....	1.	F. T.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
Whole No. of Pupils.....	65	42	47	18	18	12	13
Average attendance.....	55	34	38	15	15	10	12
Males.....	28	18	23	10	7	9	5
Females.....	37	24	24	8	11	3	8
Length of School in Weeks....	10	10	10	7	7	7	12½
Wages of teacher per month....	\$44	\$32	\$32	\$24	\$26	\$22	\$26
Absence of pupils in days.....	447	407	412	92	106½	68	51½
Tardiness.....	4	7	18	13		3	26
No. pupils not absent half a day	12	3	8	6	4	4	6
No. not tardy.....	61	37	34	12	18	9	10
No. dismissals.....		43	41	1			2
No. visits by citizens.....	38	36	44	12	10	7	33
No. visits by S. S. Committee..	3	1	4	3	3	2	4
No. visits by Prudential Com..	3		2	2	2		1

STATISTICS OF WINTER SCHOOLS FOR 1873-4.

NUMBER OF DISTRICT.....	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
Whole No. of Pupils.....	40	47	15	23	8
Average attendance.....	36	35	13	17	7
Males.....	24	27	8	12	6
Females.....	16	20	7	11	2
Length of school in weeks.....	9	11	8	9	8
Wages of teacher per month.....	\$52	\$66	\$31	\$28	\$22
Absence of pupils in days.....	166	615	45	235	25
Tardiness.....	6	10	1	22	5
No. pupils not absent half a day	5	4	9	3	5
No. not tardy.....	35	38	14	14	5
No. dismissals.....		53	5	4	
No. visits by citizens.....	36	48	14	12	5
No. visits by S. S. Committee.....	4	4	3	2	2
No. visits by Prudential Committee.....		2	1	1	

LEONARD FARRAR,
J. S. HERRICK,
Superintending School Committee.

